
Consider Becoming an NIH Reviewer



Join an Incredible Team of Your Peers Advancing Science and Health

As a reviewer, you will play an exciting role in helping the National Institutes of Health invest nearly \$30 billion each year in 300,000 researchers at over 2,500 universities, medical schools, and other research institutions here and abroad.

If you are an established and respected investigator, consider joining a peer review group at the NIH Center for Scientific Review to evaluate NIH grant applications for scientific merit. Your efforts will help advance science and ultimately improve public health and save lives.

Why Become a Reviewer?

Consider the Top Reasons Reviewers Give

Get a Front Row Seat to the Future: “It’s intense and cutting edge . . . and intellectually stimulating to see the wonderful ideas and approaches to major problems that come through.”

Become More Successful: “It really helps you to appreciate the difference between good grant writing and bad grant writing, more importantly between good science and bad science.”

Learn More: “It is the best way to stay up to date in your field, and to gain insights from other fields that can be applicable to your own work.”

Meet New Colleagues: “Getting together with colleagues to review grants is still one of the best mechanisms for building and maintaining professional contacts.”

Become a Better Mentor: “I got much better at counseling young people in how to think about their applications and what to do, and it’s paying off in their success.”

Give Back: “I feel it’s something I owe the scientific community . . . If you’re going to be a part of the system, you have to bear the responsibility.”

Shape the Future: “Helping to mold what direction science goes in is very satisfying.”

Reviewers who commit to a term of service on a NIH panel may submit at any time applications that would otherwise have a standard due date.

Who Is Qualified to Review for CSR?

When recruiting regular or temporary reviewers, we look for individuals who:

- Have substantial and independent research experience
- Have received major peer-reviewed grants (R01 or equivalent)
- Understand the importance of the review process
- Are dedicated to high quality, fair review



We also welcome individuals with diverse backgrounds to consider joining our review groups so that the panels are diverse with respect to geographic representation, gender, race and ethnicity.

Contact a CSR Scientific Review Officer

If you are an established investigator, send your CV to a CSR Scientific Review Officer you know from having your applications reviewed or from having served as a reviewer in the past. OR . . .

Let Us Find a Good Review Group for You

Send your CV to csrvolunteer@mail.nih.gov, and we explore options for pairing you with an appropriate review group.

Emerging Scientists: Check Out Our Early Career Reviewer Program Review

If you are an emerging researcher with an active, independent program of research but you have never received a major grant, consider applying to our Early Career Reviewer Program. This program may help jumpstart your career by giving you valuable experience participating in review meetings, working with distinguished scientists, and learning to become a reviewer.

Visit our Early Career Reviewer Web page to learn more about the benefits and requirements: <http://www.csr.nih.gov/ecr>

Get More Information

Visit CSR's Web site: <http://www.csr.nih.gov/>

Go to the "Reviewer Resources" page for specific information:

- Become a Reviewer
- Meeting Overview

"You'll find your intellectual peers on the study section, and it's fun to discuss ideas and interact with them."



National Institutes of Health

